

## HOW THEY SUBDUED

Devices of British Officers for  
Subduing the Unruly.

## THREE DEGREES OF TRIBUNALS

Regimental, General and District  
Court Martials.

Like every other mortal, Tommy Atkins has his failings, and, as a natural consequence, he has now and then to answer to the powers that be for some infraction of the rules. When a soldier is brought before his superior officer—the captain of his company, or the commanding officer, according to the gravity of the offense—it is nearly always because some punishment is meted out to him; and as military punishment is a feature of the service which is not shared before the general public, a few facts there about may be of interest. There are three distinct varieties of military tribunals, viz: the company court, the commanding officer and a court martial. Courts martial are of



HEAVY MARCHING ORDER.

three degrees of importance, and the maximum sentence which a court martial may impose varies according as the court is a regimental, district or general one.

To begin with, what is known as a "minor" offense, i. e., those which the captain of a company has power to dispose of summarily, we will suppose that No. 1,716 Private Thomas Atkins, has been guilty of remaining out of barracks for ten minutes after "last post," ten p. m., the previous evening, without being possessed of a "pass" enabling him to do so. Some time during the following day the orderly sergeant of his company brings him up—"wheel him up," as it is called—before his captain, states his offense and produces his "defaulter sheet," or record of his past misdemeanors. Should the sheet be clear or nearly so, considering the length of the man's service, the captain will probably admonish him; but should the unlucky wight have been in any scrape lately, or should he be an old offender, he will be sentenced to be confined to barracks for any number of days up to seven, that being the limit of power to punish of a company officer.

Let us suppose that our friend has been sentenced to three days confinement to the barracks. One might imagine this to be no great punishment. Before jumping to conclusions, however, let us see what "C. R." actually means. Besides being forbidden to leave barracks, the culprit must turn out at marching order, i. e., with pack, helmet and full equipment on, at least four times a day, and often in many corps, and each time he undergoes an hour's "defaulters drill," which consists of a monotonous march up and down the barrack square under the eye of a non-commissioned officer, usually the sergeant of the regimental police.

Of course, this drill has to be performed over and above the usual day's drill of the regiment; nor is this all, for the victim has to keep his ear open when off drill to answer when the bugle sounds for "defaulters," as it does with extreme frequency, the unhappy transgressors against military law being always held eligible for whatever fatigue duty may be going.

The unluckiest of all, however, to the average private is the stern decree that defaulters may not go into the canteen during their days of disgrace; so that after the day's drill, etc., have been got through, there is no relaxing beer allowed.

Then indeed does Tommy vow never to offend again; but, sad to say, on the completion of his time and the regaining of his freedom, he is apt to indulge in a small spree which lands him in disgrace with once more.

To come to the next grade of military punishment, let us suppose that Thomas



FLOGGING AT THE TRIANGLE.

has got a drop too much, and finds himself high and dry in the guard-room, from which he is marched next morning, under an armed escort, into the broad presence of the "chief" himself.

Should this be his first, second, or even third appearance on such a charge, he will receive no further penalty than a "frank" and longer—terms of days "C. R." Should he, however, have been on three times previously for indulging, he will be sentenced to a fine in addition to being confined to barracks. Fines range from two shillings and six pence (about two cents) to ten shillings (two dollars and a half), according to the length of time which has elapsed since his last appearance, and they are kept by his pay, a system which has been found most effectual in lessening drunkenness in the service.

A grave offense, such as insubordination to a superior, or refusing or neglecting to obey an order, a soldier is usually punished by his commanding officer to undergo a number—from twenty—up to one hundred and eighty—weight of hours imprisonment in a hard labor. A man so sentenced is conveyed to the regimental canteen where he endures his uniform

for a gray suit of unbleached cut, and undergoes an operation at the hands of the prison barber, which is a disgracement for weeks after he is liberated, viz: his hair is cropped as close as it can be all over his head.

This is done even if the man's sentence was twenty-four hours in cells, and is looked upon as the worst part of the punishment. While in cells a man has to pick out, which is a tarry abominable business to the fingers, and to perform a certain number of hours of "about drill." This is a monotonous process, consisting of taking up a fourteen or twenty pound shot in the two hands, walking with it a few paces, laying it down and picking up another and carrying it a few yards, only to lay it down and exchange it for a third, and so on in a circle. This process sounds simpler than it is, for an hour and then pronounce as to its enjoyable simplicity.

The food given to a prisoner in cells is neither palatable nor over plentiful. It consists chiefly of a sort of oatmeal gruel, known as "skilly," and not much of it.

Such work, combined with such fare, makes a few days "with hard work" mean a month in fact, many old hands would far sooner undergo a month in the regular military prison than a week in the cells. Terms of confinement in a military prison can only be ordered by a court martial, and the several court-martial before mentioned have different limits of power, viz: A regiment court martial, which is composed of officers of one regiment for the trial of a member of that regiment, cannot order more than forty-two days imprisonment, while a district court martial, consisting of different corps for the trial of any soldier, may sentence up to eighty-four days. Greater still is the power of the highest military tribunal in times of peace, the general court martial, which has for its president a general officer, hence its name. This court may order a man to be imprisoned for any term up to five years, which is the longest term given in time of peace. Should a soldier commit—at home—a very serious crime, say murder, he is handed over to the civil authorities to be dealt with.

The usual sentence of a general court martial is "imprisonment with hard labor for five years, thereafter to be discharged from her majesty's service as an incorrigible and worthless character." Flogging, which used to be a common form of punishment, is now abolished, at least it is never employed save on rare occasions of disobedience or insubordination in the military prisons. In such cases the governor of the prison may order the delinquent to receive a number of lashes, not more than thirty-six, except that the governor has power to deal at his own discretion with lazy or insubordinate prisoners. This he generally does by ordering them to solitary confinement, which is a terrible form of punishment, the prisoner being kept in a cell with absolutely nothing to do and no one to see for a certain number of hours; moreover, twice in twenty-four hours a small piece of bread and a basin of water—his sole food while in solitary confinement—make their appearance at a small trap door in the wall of his cell; he does not even see the warden that feeds him.

A few hours of this generally suffices to bring a man to his senses; on active service of course punishments are more severe, as discipline has to be much more strongly enforced than at home, and if necessary a summary court martial, known as a "drum head" one, may sentence a man to be shot. This extreme course is only employed, however, in a case of desertion from the field, desertion during times of peace being visited—whether the deserter returns voluntarily, as nine out of ten do, or he is captured—by a longer or shorter term of imprisonment. Life in a military prison is almost identical with that of a civil one. Should he be proof against this treatment and remain insubordinate, the "cat" may be ordered, and it has never been known to fail in convincing a man of the error of resisting the authorities.

CANNON BALL DRILL.

ERNEST P. NEVILLE.

MEXICO ASKS A FAVOR.

WANTS HER TROOPS TO ENTER TEXAS—A Difficult Question of Diplomacy Presented to Secretary Blaine.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—The question of allowing Mexican troops to enter United States territory in pursuit of Garza and his band has been informally presented to the secretary of state and was one of the topics of discussion at the cabinet meeting Friday. It is understood that the Mexican government will soon make formal application for the privilege referred to. This matter was presented to Secretary Blaine by Senator Romero, Mexican minister, a few days ago in the course of a general conversation in regard to the case of Garza. Minister Romero remarked that the Mexican authorities were hampered somewhat in the operations against the insurgents by their habit of seeking shelter in United States territory whenever Mexican soldiers were in close proximity to them, and on the other hand crossing the line into Mexico when necessary to avoid a meeting with United States troops.

He was of opinion that the capture of Garza might be effected without doubt if the troops of either country were allowed to follow him into contiguous foreign territory. He intimated that in order to test the sentiment of this government on the question the president of Mexico should make formal application to the president of the United States for permission for Mexican troops to enter United States territory in pursuit of Garza in case such a course is rendered necessary.

The question is considered a most serious one, involving a degree of diplomatic and international delicacy of unusual importance. The matter of damage that might be done to Ameri-

can life and property renders the question a difficult one to decide, particularly in view of the present friendly relations between the United States and Mexico.

It is understood that the secretary of state is opposed to the proposition as tending to establish a dangerous precedent in the treatment of political offenders. No action will be taken by this government, however, unless the matter is formally presented.

## TELEGRAPHIC BRIEVITIES.

Lord Randolph Churchill, who has been traveling in South Africa, has returned to England.

County Treasurer Lusk, of Centerville, Ia., who disappeared recently, is said to have stolen more than \$200,000. Minnesota democrats Friday notified the Farmers' Alliance that no fusion could be effected on the platform advocated by the latter.

Fire Friday destroyed the courthouse at Marshall, Minn. It had just been completed and was not yet accepted by the county. The loss is \$50,000, and the insurance \$18,000.

J. J. Floyd, of Enfield, I. T., arrested in New York on the charge of swindling Spofford Bros., dry goods dealers of Kansas City, has been turned over to the Federal authorities.

Minnie Riddle, of Olmstead, Ill., charged with murder, jumped from a moving train Friday while being taken to Cairo by the sheriff. She escaped with a few bruises and is now in jail.

## A VETERAN GONE.

Rear Admiral Rogers Expires of Heart Trouble at Washington.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—Rear Admiral C. R. P. Rogers (retired) died here Friday evening of heart trouble. He had been ill for some time.

(Christopher Raymond Perry Rogers was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., November 14, 1818. His father was captain in the navy and many of his ancestors occupied distinguished places in the government service. He served in the Seminole and Mexican wars with distinction and was commissioned a commodore on October 15, 1861. He won distinction on the Washburn and as fleet captain of the Admiral Porter at Port Royal, as well as in the capture of Fort Mifflin. In 1863 he was assigned to the command of the steam sloop Itasca. He became a commodore August 2, 1870, and rear admiral June 14, 1874. November 14, 1881, he was placed on the retired list.)

## Wheat Buyers Assign.

LA CROSSE, Wis., Jan. 9.—W. E. Coates & Co., wheat buyers, who own a line of elevators on the Milwaukee road, with headquarters at Sparta, Wis., have made an assignment. The bank of Sparta is said to be the heaviest creditor. The assets and liabilities at this writing are unobtainable. Mr. Coates is at present mayor of Sparta.

## Three Trainmen.

LITTLE ROCK, Jan. 9.—A freight train jumped the track on the Little Rock & Fort Smith railroad near Reynolds spur Friday night. The engine and seven cars rolled down a steep embankment. Engineer Brown, Fireman Freeman and Brakeman Kennedy were killed. The damage to the railroad property will be about \$40,000.

## Here Is an Honest Man.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—A letter has been received by Secretary Noble from a man at Boston in which he incloses his pension certificate, and says he voluntarily relinquishes his pension, as he does not wish further assistance from the government. It is an unusual occurrence, and such people are few and far between.

## Deserved Their Rewards.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 9.—The sentences of the female convicts who November 3 rescued a number of male convicts who were swept into the sea, clinging to an overturned wooden building, have been remitted or greatly lightened. The act of heroism was performed during the great cyclone.

## A Blackhawk War Veteran Dead.

NYACK, N. Y., Jan. 9.—John W. Nelson, grandson of Thomas Nelson, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, died here Thursday evening at the age of 80 years. The deceased was engaged in the Seminole war in Florida, and was one of the scouts who went in search of the famous Indian chief, Blackhawk.

## Foul Play Suspected.

WOBURN, Mass., Jan. 9.—The police are inclined to believe that Daniel McCarthy, whose body was found Thursday evening burned to a crisp in the ruins of his home, was murdered, and that his house was fired to conceal the crime. An axe has been found near the house covered with blood. An investigation will be held.

## A Receiver Appointed.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Jan. 9.—A receiver has been appointed for the Empire State Savings, Loan and Investment association, which was formed in 1890 with Col. E. Finley Smith as president and an alleged capital stock of \$150,000,000. It was one of the wildest of the "get-rich-quick" concerns, and the state banking department prevented it doing much harm.

## Bats Are Unlucky.

There is a very strong dislike to the bat among the peasants of south Germany. A feeling of disgust and fear takes possession of the farmer who finds bats in his chimney, not only because he believes the creatures will feed upon his pork that hangs in the smoke, but because bats are regarded as unlucky and bring poverty and misfortune.

## GRAND ATHLETIC TOURNEY

The Independent Club Will Give a Fine Exhibition.

The Grand Rapids Independent Athletic club will give their second grand exhibition in their club rooms, Metropolitan hall, Pearl street, Tuesday evening, January 12. Make up "Famous" opera house orchestra. The program is a very interesting one, in which leaping and vaulting will be introduced. The following artists will take part: Fallon and Snotmaker in their burlesque trapeze; Smith and Krigger, heavy-weight lifting and Greek-Roman wrestling; Jesse Maloney, the graceful perch artist; Garretts Bros. horizontal bar exercise; Edward Smith, acrobatic y Indians; Roche and Fallon, scientific sparring bout; Athletic club quartet; four Merinos, in elastic grotesque; Bonney and Peterson, in fencing contest; Martine and Maloney, double trapeze; Henry Rockman, club swinging; Maloney and Fallon, catch-as-catch-can wrestling; A. Snotmaker, single trapeze. To conclude with the Four Imperialists, introducing their Chinese trick horse, which caused such a sensation at the last exhibition. General admission 25 cents.

## A GREAT STOCK MOVING SALE

WILL BEGIN AT

# THE TOWER

MONDAY MORNING.

The usual ways taken to move our goods at just this time of the year will be resorted to next week. To carry out our purpose we have about 100 broken lines of suits marked at cost, some of them less than cost. This same reduction will extend to every department in the store. No special knowledge of values is required to see the worth of the articles we shall show you. Our harvest during the holidays is over; now comes yours. Special drives in Men's and Boys' Winter Caps, Heavy Flannel Shirts, Closes, Mittens and Underwear. The cold weather comes too late to have goods bring the prices they ought to bring. So here goes! No matter at what sacrifice.

LADIES—While waiting for the West Side horse car line will be welcomed inside our doors.

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Prof. S. T. Maynard, Prof. of Floriculture, Massachusetts Agricultural College, has written a little book,

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This little book contains directions for planting, potting and repotting house plants, slipping and rooting, wintering, washing and transplanting. Also, a treatise on decorative plants.

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And, in short, about everything that a lover of flowers wants to know about her plants.

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# AT THE GIANT

Our justly celebrated and successful PANIC SALE has enabled us to unload a great quantity of clothing within the last month. As might be expected, this sale has left us with a great amount of broken lots and odd sizes. It is not our policy to let this loose stock accumulate, and to get rid of these odds and ends, we started a

## Special Clearing Sale

Which will eclipse anything of the kind heretofore. All goods will be sold regardless of profit, regardless of cost and regardless of everything, except that we wish to get rid of them. Although these lots are mostly odd sizes, we will have something to please you in your size, and think of buying a suit and an overcoat at just about the former price of the suit alone.

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## GIANT CLOTHING COMPANY

COAL  
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See for yourself. The grand store. The grand goods.  
Everything fresh, clean and new. Polite clerks.  
Nobby styles. An elegant stock and the  
lowest prices the rule of this house.

### JUST GLANCE AT THESE PRICES:

Gents' shoes, your choice of styles, 90c, 65c, \$1.  
Gents' shoes, your choice of styles, \$1.10, \$1.20, \$1.37.  
Gents' fine calf shoes, any style, \$1.30, \$1.50, \$1.65.  
Gents' fine calf shoes, any style, \$1.40, \$1.50, \$2.00, the best line ever seen for the money.  
Gents' fine kangaroo shoes, any style you want, great fitters, \$1.50, \$2.25, \$2.50.  
Working shoes, 80c, 91c and 95c for boys' all, in lace and congress.  
Boys' calf shoes, any style, \$1.00, \$1.10, \$1.25, all solid, warranted.  
Youths' shoes, 80c, 90c, \$1 and \$1.55.  
School shoes, heel or spring heel, goat or kid, 60c, 70c, 90c, \$1, \$1.20, sizes 6 to 8, 9 to 11, 12 to 2, in all widths. Don't miss to see these goods, money in your pocket to buy them.  
Infants' shoes, 25c, 37c, 45c and 60c. These are true and easy on the feet.

The best line of ladies' Oxfords ever seen in Grand Rapids in plain, tan, patent, tip, common sense or St. Louis toe, from A to E, great fitters, 50c, 60c, 70c, 80c, 90c, \$1, \$1.25. We will state that we will save you at least 20c to 25c on every pair.

Our line of ladies' shoes are just grand. Made on the newest lasts, in all styles, sizes and widths. You are bound to be pleased if you will come and examine.

A lady's shoe at 97c, 90c, 85c and 97c.  
A fine pair of ladies' button shoes \$1.10, \$1.30, \$1.45.  
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A finer pair of ladies' button shoes \$1.60, \$1.85, \$2.20. These are all well made and ready to wear. We have them in all sizes and widths. Will give you a splendid fit.

Hand turn, hand and welt, black leather shoes, extra extra for extra, no more and no more to hurt the feet, all styles and widths, \$2, \$2.25 and \$2.75.  
Browse slippers, evening dress slippers of all shades.

If you have tender feet and find difficulty in getting a good fit, try

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